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ABSTRACT

Information on the nature and scope of organized international exchange programs at the high school level in the nine-county Bay Area of California is presented. In addition to providing an overview of the local situation, information is provided on 19 organizations that are involved in student exchange. The following problems that have been encountered are also considered: finding host families, understaffing of agencies, and the lack of interest expressed by American high schools. The organizations consist of three major national organizations, eight additional major organizations with a strong Bay Area presence, and other local or national organizations and programs. The three major national organizations are the American Field Service, the Experiment in International Living, and Youth for Understanding. In the 1981-1982 academic year, these three organizations brought about 406 foreign students to the Bay Area and sent about 279 Bay Area students to foreign countries. Other organizations that have a strong Bay Area presence include: the American Institute for Foreign Study, the Pacific American Institute, Amigos de las Americas, the Bureau of Jewish Education, the International Christian Youth Exchange, Educational Foundation for Foreign Study, Interstudy, and the American International Education and Training. (SW)

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INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMS IN THE BAY AREA

July, 1983

A Joint Project of
The World Affairs Council of Northern California; Stanford University; U.C. Berkeley; and Global Perspectives in Education, Inc.

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INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

PROGRAMS IN THE BAY AREA

July, 1983

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PREFACE

The Bay Area and the World Project was initiated in 1981 for the primary purpose of gathering and disseminating information about the Bay Area's international relationships and their important local effects. The basic aim of the project is to develop public awareness and understanding of international interactions in the Bay region and to strengthen individual and institutional ability to manage public and private international affairs.

In this survey, we set out initially to spotlight local participation in the youth exchange field as another important piece in the vast mosaic comprising the Bay Area's international profile. Midway through the survey, the President's International Youth Exchange Initiative was announced. Subsequently, it became apparent that a more comprehensive treatment of our topic would be useful as a point of departure for local efforts relating to the national initiative.

The report in its present, evolved form should serve two basic purposes. First, although accurate and comparable statistical data on Bay Area participation are extremely difficult to obtain, we hope the data in this report serve as a functional baseline by which future participation increases or decreases can be gauged. Second, we hope that the report will serve to spotlight local efforts in this important field, and to focus regional sights on what is needed locally to improve both the numbers of those participating in youth exchanges and the quality of their experience.

Bay Area and the World wishes to acknowledge with sincere thanks the efforts of several volunteers, exchange professionals, and others who made this report possible: Karen Marshall for her diligent research and writing, Laurie Lucinski for her early research effort, Roger Sterner of the Experiment in International Living for help in conceptualizing the survey, and members of the Northern California Consultative Group on Americans and World Affairs for their critiques and suggestions. We are grateful to Ernst & Whinney for their assistance with this document's

preparation. We are also indebted to the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation for making this study and the entire Bay Area and the World Project possible. Final responsibility for the report and its contents rests, of course, with Bay Area and the World.

Peter A. Wollitzer
Executive Director

INTRODUCTION

> "If a man be gracious and courteous to strangers, it shows he is a citizen of the world, and that his heart is no island cut off from other lands, but a continent that joins to them."
>
> Francis Bacon
> Essays, of Goodness
> and Goodness of Nature

Francis Bacon lived from 1561 to 1626. There were no telephones, no satellites, no airplanes, no missiles. International trade was limited to what could be carried in wooden sailing ships taking months to round Cape Horn on their way to and from Europe, India, and the Far East. Japan was an unknown mystery, the Romanovs were just beginning their three hundred year reign in Russia, and at Bacon's death the American Revolution was still one hundred and fifty years into the future.

In Bacon's time, being a citizen of the world was optional. In our time it is an indisputable fact of life. We do have telephones, satellites, airplanes, and missiles. International trade in the Bay Area alone amounted to $19.9 billion in 1981 and provided as many as one in six or seven local jobs. Japan's fifth generation supercomputers now pose a real and serious challenge to the long-dominant United States computer industry and all that is at stake there, and United States/Soviet military rivalry has put human civilization itself on check-mate.

Living up to the fact of world citizenship by learning about our world neighbors and how to work with them is one of our least acknowledged priority needs; yet, it is clearly one of the most important. International Youth Exchange is one promising way to acknowledge this need. By no means a guaranteed fix-all, it nonetheless represents one of the most potent, universally recognized, and readily available means for replacing international barriers with international bridges. The newly-organized President's International Youth Exchange Initiative,

despite its limitations, offers what is undoubtedly the best opportunity in the past twenty years to focus United States public attention and priority on facilitating personal international living experiences among the world's youth.

The President's Youth Exchange Initiative seeks to triple the number of 15-19 year-old exchanges between the United States, Canada, and Western Europe by 1985. The target number of exchanges is 40,000 over the three year period. In order to assist the several distinguished youth exchange organizations in this country which are to implement this increase, the Initiative seeks to provide helping funds in the amount of $1,000 per student. If these subsidies are to be available, $15 million must be raised from private sources and added to the $10 million which will be provided from government funds. Additionally, 20,000 American families must be found to host participating foreign students.

To provide a local starting point for this ambitious effort, the Bay Area and the World Project considered it essential that the Bay Area public first know the current status of international youth exchange in this region. Thus, our purpose in undertaking this report was to document the nature and scope of organized international exchange programs at the high school level throughout the nine-county Bay Area.[1] The report provides an overview of the local situation, a descriptive listing of the principal organizations involved and what they do, the main obstacles to progress, and observations about what lies ahead.

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[1]San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano, Napa, Sonoma, Marin

I. DEFINITIONS & METHODS

"International Youth Exchange" is a difficult term to define. Generally, organizations ranging from the large, well-established, non-profit leaders of the field to small, profit-making youth travel tour organizers are mixed together under the same heading. This assessment attempted to cover the range in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the youth exchange field.

The survey is comprehensive, but it is not exhaustive. Hundreds of specialized local opportunities exist for high school students to travel or live abroad; with clubs, individual teachers, service organizations, and local churches. We could not hope to find all of these, nor to obtain useful data even if we had found them. Many programs operate without adequate records; even the best organized and established programs are generally understaffed, making accurate participation statistics extremely difficult to obtain.

Data for this survey were obtained by a combination of personal and telephone interviews, and by analysis of the descriptive documents that were made available by responding organizations. All major organizations responded to our information requests. Nineteen organizations in all are included in the survey. They were identified by asking knowledgeable local persons in the youth exchange field to add names they knew to the list of organizations to be surveyed. By this process we believe that we covered all of the significant organizations which are active in the Bay Area.

To repeat, we do not claim that the survey is exhaustive or that it represents a statistically valid sample or population; this was not our intent. It was our intent to cover the principal sources of international youth exchange in the nine-county Bay Area, to provide some information about each, and to estimate--on the basis of available statistics--approximately how many Bay Area exchanges take place annually.

II. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE IN THE BAY AREA: AN OVERVIEW

The organizations providing international youth exchange in the San Francisco Bay Area can be divided into three broad categories: the three major national organizations, eight additional major organizations with a strong Bay Area presence, and other local or national organizations and programs. All eleven of the major organizations serving the Bay Area maintain an office or other presence here, and two of the eleven are headquartered in the Bay Area.

The three major national organizations are the American Field Service (AFS), the Experiment in International Living (EIL), and Youth for Understanding (YFU). These three provide the high school level focus of the President's Youth Exchange Initiative. All have regional offices in the Bay Area. In the 1981-82 academic year, these three organizations together brought approximately 406 foreign students to the Bay Area and sent approximately 279 Bay Area students to foreign countries. In each case, the Bay Area figures represent 4 - 5% of the national total for these organizations.

Some other major organizations have a strong Bay Area presence. These include the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS), the Pacific American Institute (PAI), Amigos de las Americas, the Bureau of Jewish Education, the International Christian Youth Exchange, Educational Foundation for Foreign Study, Interstudy, and the American International Education and Training (AI). Of these eight, all are non-profit except the last two. American International Education and Training and the Pacific American Institute are headquartered in the Bay Area. Together, these organizations sent approximately 1229 high school students abroad during the last academic year and summer, although well over half of the participants were in programs emphasizing cultural travel rather than cross-cultural living experiences. Only five organizations in this group bring foreign students to the United States, and among them they brought some 1973 students to the Bay Area during 1981-82. Most of these participants stayed for one to two months.

Other local or national organizations and programs are quite numerous in the Bay Area. It is nearly impossible to estimate accurately the number

of students involved annually or even the number of such organizations and programs that exist. Our efforts revealed at least eight such organizations and several programs independently sponsored through individual high schools, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and Rotary International.

The eight organizations we counted for this third category are the American Intercultural Student Exchange (a large national non-profit organization with limited Bay Area activity); School Year Abroad (run by Philips Andover and Philips Exeter Academies); Intercultural Student Experience (headquartered in Minnesota and used by Lick-Wilmerding High School in San Francisco); Interalp (Princeton, N.J.); Crossroads Africa (New York); People-to-People (Kansas City, Missouri); the German-American Partnership Program (associated with San Rafael and Terra Linda High Schools); and a San Francisco-headquartered cultural travel program called Tent N'Trek. We have been able to document the participation of 110 Bay Area students in these programs in 1981-82; plus 8 Rotary sponsored exchanges and 3 in the Girl Scouts.

1981-1982 BAY AREA PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGES[1]

	Number of Students to the Bay Area	Number of Students from the Bay Area	Bay Area Percentage of National Participation
Three Major National Organizations YFU, AFS, Experiment	406	269 (+10)[2]	4-5% of National Inbound and Outbound Participants
Additional Organizations With a Strong Bay Area Presence (8 Organizations)	1,973	1,229	23% of National Total - Inbound Outbound Not Available
Other Programs	Negligible	110	Not Available
Minimum Totals 19 Organizations	2,379	1,618	--

1. Based on available documentation as described in text of report.
2. AFS + San Francisco University High School sent 10 students to Costa Rica in a pilot project in 1982.

SOURCE: BAY AREA AND THE WORLD PROJECT

III. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE ORGANIZATIONS SERVING THE BAY AREA: A CLOSER LOOK

Who are the international youth exchange organizations serving the Bay Area, how do they work, and what do they provide? This section summarizes the information obtained by our survey.

1) The American Field Service (AFS), a private, non-profit, non-sectarian organization, was first established as a volunteer ambulance corps in France. Today AFS provides international exchange among high school students from over 80 nations. Nationwide, AFS placed 3,200 foreign students in the United States during the last academic year (1981-82). AFS sent 3,500 American students abroad for either summer or academic year programs. AFS provides participating students with a living experience in the home of a host family in order to develop a feeling for a particular country's language, history and culture.

   Headquartered in New York, the organization functions locally under the auspices of volunteer representatives, club advisors and chapter presidents. The San Francisco Bay Area has three chapters: San Francisco, Alameda and Contra Costa.

   In the 1981-82 academic year, 72 students from the Bay Area went abroad and 35 foreign students came to the Bay Area, 49 of those going abroad spent a summer in Switzerland, Greece, Israel, Japan or Ecuador; the remaining 40 were abroad for the entire academic year. These numbers have remained at a constant level over the past few years.

   Students participating in an AFS program are placed in a host family's home where all room, board, and incidentals are provided by the host family. The student attends a local high school and is expected to complete all work assigned.

   In order to participate in the AFS program, students must be 16-18 years old, maintain a B average or better and submit recommendations from teachers. Fees for 1981-82 programs were $1,725 for summer and

$2,950 for school year programs. Some scholarships are generally available. AFS also co-sponsored a pilot project with San Francisco's private University High School in 1982, in which 10 students and 1 teacher went as a group to Costa Rica. They lived with families and attended a high school there for three weeks.

2) The Experiment in International Living (EIL) was established in 1932. A private, non-profit organization, The Experiment seeks "to promote understanding among the peoples of the world through travel, language learning, cross-cultural orientation and the homestay, in which people of different cultures learn about each other by living together as members of a family."

The Experiment is headquartered in Vermont and maintains a western regional office in San Francisco. The Experiment provides 3-4 week homestays abroad during the summer for small groups of 8-12 American students and their trained group leader. The Experiment also has programs for students to study at a foreign high school for a semester while living with a host family. For foreign students wishing to live with an American family, The Experiment provides a 5-10 month program of study at U.S. high schools.

The regional office in San Francisco has one full time and one part time staff member who handle recruitment, administrative tasks, and counseling for departing students.

Students participating in The Experiment's program most often choose France as their primary destination: England is the second most popular country. Lately there seems to be growing interest in visiting developing countries such as India, Sri Lanka and Kenya. The Experiment plans to increase the numbers of students going to these developing countries, and also to Mexico, Chile, and Brazil.

In 1981-82, 89 students from the Western Region spent the summer abroad; 42% of these were from the Bay Area. Only one Bay Area student participated in the semester abroad program. The nine Bay Area counties hosted 80 foreign students. In the past two years, the

number of incoming placements has increased, with the Western Region hosting the largest number of foreign participants in the United States.

3) Youth for Understanding (YFU) is a private, non-profit, educational organization founded in the belief that human understanding and respect for foreign cultures can be achieved through international student exchange. YFU has year-long programs for foreign students to stay with American host families and attend local high schools. YFU also has both summer and year-long programs for American students abroad.

YFU's Bay Area office is located in Los Altos and is responsible for both outbound and inbound students in Northern California, Nevada and Hawaii. During the 1981-82 academic year, YFU placed 291 students in the Bay Area out of 4,000 nationally. Most of these students were from Germany, Latin America, Finland and Japan. 102 Bay Area students participated in YFU's summer program and 58 Bay Area students of a national total of 2,000 went abroad for the academic year. France, Japan and Australia were the most popular destinations for young Americans.

The requirements for participation are that the student must be between 14-18 years old and maintain a B average. Students from abroad are expected to have conversational English ability, and some countries also have language requirements for American students. The cost for American students for the summer is $2,150. The cost for the academic year abroad is $4,100, including air fare.

4) The American Institute for Foreign Study Scholarship Foundation (AIFS) is a non-profit educational organization established to promote worldwide understanding through cross-cultural exchange. The Academic Year in America Program is sponsored by this organization and provides "American Home Study" experiences for 15-19 year olds from Europe, Mexico, South America and Asia. Participants in this program stay with American families and attend local high schools either for a semester or a full academic year.

The Foundation also offers "Homestay in America" which enables foreign students aged 14-22 to live with American families for a period of 2-4 weeks. Students learn about American life by living with host families and through activities arranged by AIFS. AIFS maintains a regional office in San Francisco which is headquarters for the entire Western Region. AIFS has a paid staff in San Francisco and volunteer counselors throughout the Bay Area. Nationally, 220 students came to the United States through AIFS in 1981-82, but only 9 came to the Bay Area. On the contrary, 472 Bay Area youths went abroad through AIFS from a total of 1,238 for the Western Region. Host families in this program receive $100 a month to help offset direct costs.

5) The Pacific-American Institute (PAI) is a nationwide organization headquartered in San Francisco. It was originally created to "offer international student visitors to the United States a unique opportunity to become acquainted with America and Americans through participation in carefully structured academic homestay programs."

PAI offers 3 programs for foreign students to study in the United States. The Academic Homestay Program organizes students into groups of 30. Each group is then placed in an American community which is generally suburban or semi-rural in nature. These students stay with host families and participate in English language classes taught by an American teacher. PAI also offers homestays for individuals in which students stay with an American family for from 2 weeks to months. This program does not include an academic component. For students wishing to spend an entire academic year in the United States, PAI also offers an Academic Year Program. Students live with a host family and participate in the regular program of instruction at a local high school. Qualified students may earn an American diploma. 2,500 students participated in PAI's homestay program in 1981-82, and the Bay Area hosted approximately 15-20% of them.

6) Interstudy is a private organization designed to "offer its participants a growth experience in another culture". For American students, Interstudy offers study tours in the summer and other vacations lasting from one week to one month. These tours do not

include homestays. Interstudy has two inbound programs, each lasting for about a month. The American Culture Program is designed for students already possessing a certain level of fluency in English; it provides an opportunity to learn about the arts, history and politics as taught by Americans. The American Language Program is structured for students who need to improve their English ability. Classes are taught daily by professional teachers of English as a Second Language. Both programs include homestays, social gatherings and field trips.

Last year, 1,200 students were placed in the Bay Area through Interstudy programs, from a national total of 5,000. About two-thirds of these students came from the Orient, the remaining one-third were from Italy, Spain, Germany, Sweden and Guadalupe. Interstudy is shifting attention towards more specialized programs for students with specific interests.

7) Amigos de las Americas is a private, non-profit, voluntary organization. Its headquarters is in Houston, Texas but there are several Bay Area chapters. Through the Amigos program, volunteers serve in public health projects in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. In order to participate students must be over 16 years old. The program is year round with each volunteer-in-training receiving approximately 125 hours of training in public health care, Latin American culture, Spanish, human relations, leadership, and business record keeping during the October-to-June period. The volunteers then work in Latin America from mid-June to mid-August. The family of the volunteer is expected to contribute $750 (tax-deductible) toward the cost of the program. The remainder of the cost is raised locally by the Amigos chapters and with fund-raising projects at the international level.

In 1981-82 there were at least 80 volunteers from the Bay Area which represents one-quarter of all U.S. participants. The number of youths participating this year is even higher than last year. The Bay Area chapters are all run by volunteers.

8) The Bureau of Jewish Education in San Francisco, in cooperation with temples in San Francisco, Marin and the Northern Peninsula, has sponsored a Summer-in-Israel Youth Program for 13 years. The program consists of a six-week tour through Israel. The students stay in youth hostels and hotels. They also camp for a week and usually spend two days on a kibbutz.

During the summer of 1982, 185 Bay Area students of high school age participated. The cost of the program in 1982 was $2,500 including air fare from the West Coast. The Bureau of Jewish Education also has listings for over 100 programs for youth exchange in Israel.

9) The International Christian Youth Exchange (ICYE) is a private, non-profit organization established after World War II to foster international reconciliation and to encourage international and intercultural understanding. The International Office is in Berlin and the U.S. Office is in New York City. ICYE provides both academic and non-academic year-long programs for 500 students worldwide each year. This year 10 exchangees went from the Bay Area and an equal number came here. Most of the exchangees from the U.S. go to Europe (with Italy, Germany, and Finland predominating) with a smaller number going to Latin America, Asia, and Australia/New Zealand. Exchangees attend school and live with a family or undertake a supervised program of volunteer community service. In cooperation with several universities, college credit is available to students of college age for year long volunteer service.

Fees for the 1982-83 year are $500 which cover travel, insurance and orientation conferences. Room and board are provided by the host family. In the Bay Area, ICYE is administered by a sponsoring committee based in Berkeley.

10) American International Education and Training (AI) in Marin is a private company which sponsors both inbound and outbound exchange programs. The inbound programs are for an academic year or for a five-month program of living with an American family and attending a local high school. A summer homestay with an academic program provided by AI is also available. In 1982 AI brought 150 foreign

students to the United States for the academic year program, with 10-15% of them staying in the Bay Area. The summer program had 750 participants in the United States, with 240 in the Bay Area.

The outbound program for American students covers 2-4 weeks in the summer. Students travel in groups with the teacher who recruited them, and the itinerary is arranged according to the specifications of the responsible teacher. In 1982, 2,500 students participated nationally, 200 of which were from the Bay Area. The estimated cost range is from $1,900 to $3,500.

11) The American Intercultural Student Exchange (AISE) is a non-profit, educational organization for high school students. It was founded in the belief that international student exchange is vital to human understanding. National headquarters is located in La Jolla, California with area representatives in 48 states and several foreign countries.

AISE enables 15-17 year olds from overseas to live with an American family and attend a local high school for an academic year. American students are given an opportunity to study abroad for an academic year or during a shorter summer program. The AISE Program "stresses family living as the heart of the learning experinece . . . offering students the chance to share in other cultures through personal involvement in the home schools and communities of their host countries".

In 1982, 100 American students went abroad to study, half went for the summer and half for the academic year. This includes 3 students from the Bay Area (2 for the year, 1 for the summer). 750 foreign students came to the United States in this program from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Germany, Spain and the Phillippines.

To participate in the AISE programs, students must exhibit academic interest and achievement, have the recommendation of their school principal and teachers, and show evidence of adaptability and maturity. Foreign students must also give evidence of good command of English. The fees for an academic year are approximately

$3,000-$4,000 which includes air fare, insurance and administrative costs. Scholarships are not provided.

12) The Educational Foundation for Foreign Study (EF) is a non-profit public foundation with its headquarters in Greenwich, CT. It has recently opened an office in San Francisco. EF operates a 10 month homestay program for European teenagers to visit the U.S. and attend high school. EF currently has 800 students from 12 European countries placed in 36 states. There are 9 students placed in the Bay Area. EF also has a smaller outbound program with 2 Bay Area students living with European families. The cost of the outbound programs is $2,900 this year. EF plans to greatly expand its inbound and outbound programs in the Bay Area this coming year, hence the opening of the San Francisco office.

13) School Year Abroad is a rigorous academic program run by Philips Academy Andover and Philips Exeter Academy. American students spend a full academic year in France (Rennes) or Spain (Barcelona). Students stay with French or Spanish families but do not attend local schools. Instruction in English and math is provided by teachers from the sponsoring American schools, and classes in either French or Spanish language, literature, art and history are taught by French or Spanish teachers in the language and style of the country. Costs for the 1982-83 academic year are $7,700 for Spain and $8,000 for France. These costs do not include air fare. University High School in San Francisco has one student abroad this year in the program, and has had many in past years. University High School is now a sponsoring institution and can provide information.

14) Tent N' Trek is a locally headquartered cultural travel tour which has operated for the past 12 years. The annual summer trip lasts approximately 6 weeks and takes 34 students plus 5 staff members to 8 European countries. Travel is by private bus and the group uses the European campground system for accomodations. Activities range from cultural visits in the major cities to outdoor sports such as Alpine summer skiing. With no academic, foreign language, or homestay component, this program represents the opposite end of the spectrum

from programs such as the Experiment, AFS, or YFU. Costs for 1982 are $3,949 including air travel.

15) People-to-People High School Student Ambassador Program provides a month-long trip for selected American students. They visit 5 countries and have homestays of 4 or 5 days in 3 of those countries. Students are recommended by a principal, teacher or other responsible adult and take part in a 2-day State Department briefing in Washington before travelling overseas. The students travel in groups of about 30 with 3 Teacher-Leaders. The cost for American students ranges from $2,500-$4,000. Students from abroad also come to the United States under a similar program where they spend about half of their time in homestays. No Bay Area participation figures are available.

16) The Boy Scouts of America (local troops) do not have a regular exchange program, but during a Jamboree send local youths to the Jamboree. The British Boy Scouts do have a regular program, with a group of scouts coming to the Bay Area every other year for a camping trip to Yosemite.

17) The Girl Scouts of America (local troops) have a program which last year sent three girls abroad to Mexico, Belgium and Jamaica. These trips are usually linked to special events, with the foreign associations providing homestays in the country after the special event is over. The trips last from four to six weeks. Last year three Italian girls and one Japanese student came to the Bay Area for a special event. The number of girls going abroad with the Scouts has remained level since the mid-1920s.

18) Rotary International offers inbound and outbound exchange programs. The Rotary District which includes the coastal counties from San Mateo to the Oregon border is now sponsoring 8 American students in Europe, South America, South Africa and New Zealand. In January 1983, 5 foreign students will be arriving in the Bay Area for a year's stay. Both inbound and outbound programs include a homestay and attendance at a local high school. The local Rotary pays airfare for each student it sends abroad and the host Rotary pays all living

expenses. Students must provide only their own pocket money. All applicants are screened by the Rotary. Those interested in a Rotary exchange should apply to the Rotary in the town or city where they live.

(19) Neighbors Abroad of Palo Alto has a student exchange program which sends 15 students selected from the city's high school Spanish classes to Oaxaca, Mexico for a 5-6 week summer homestay in early summer. When the Palo Alto students return they each bring an Oaxaca "sister or brother" from the Mexican host family to stay in their home for 5-6 weeks. Air fare expenses are paid by the individual student, with the host family providing everything else except personal spending money.

20) Arrangements Through Individual High Schools

Several Bay Area high schools make individual arrangements with programs or organizations which are not headquartered in the Bay Area and which do not have local chapters or sponsorship:

- University High School in San Francisco uses other programs in addition to School Year Abroad mentioned earlier. Interalp with headquarters in Princeton, N.J., is one of these. Interalp sends groups of students (who may sign up individually) to 3 countries--Greece, Kenya and Egypt--for one semester. They live in a group and provide their own cooking and cleaning services. They attend classes in their regular subjects and participate in extra activities which vary according to the host country; for instance, they work on an archaeological dig in Egypt and go on safaris in Kenya. This program, like School Year Abroad, is relatively expensive because instruction is provided by American teachers. University High School also had one student participate this summer in a Crossroads Africa program in the Caribbean.

- In Marin, San Rafael and Terra Linda High Schools participate in a program for exchange with Germany. It is called the German American Program. This program differs from many others as it is

arranged cooperatively between German and American high schools. This year 19 German students and their teacher came to Marin; 18 Americans and a teacher spent 30 days in Germany, with part of their time spent in the German high school. This is the 5th year of participation for the Marin high schools. Terra Linda also has 8 foreign students attending school this year under a Youth For Understanding program.

- The Athenian School in Danville belongs to an international conference of schools called The Round Square. Within that conference the schools have regular exchanges. Other member schools are in England, France and Germany. The Athenian School is a boarding school with a special English as a Second Language (ESL) program and regularly has a foreign student enrollment of about 30 students.

- Sacred Heart High School (Menlo Park) is also a boarding school with a special ESL program. Of the 50 boarding students at the school this year 30-35 are Oriental, Latin American or European. There are also 15-20 day students from Europe and Arab countries whose parents work in Silicon Valley.

- Sacred Heart High School in Menlo Park has teachers who organize trips to Europe on a regular basis for students of the school. The trips include family stays for cultural immersion. Campolindo High School in Moraga has a similar situation, now 10 years old, with a teacher organizing a private tour for students every year.

- Woodside Priory in Woodside has a summer English as a Second Language program and therefore attracts a large number of foreign students. Of its enrollment of 220 students, 50 are from outside the United States. Drew School in San Francisco also has a large foreign population with 35-40% of its students regularly coming from outside the United States.

IV. FURTHER FINDINGS: OBSTACLES TO PROGRESS

Several problems in administering youth exchanges in the Bay Area emerged in the course of our interviews. The consistent problems are discussed briefly below.

Host Families

Locally and nationally, the single biggest problem appears to be finding adequate numbers of acceptable families to host incoming foreign students. Lower and middle class families tend to be the most generous in giving their time, homes, and resources to international youth exchange.

In San Francisco there are comparatively fewer family living groups within the city itself, and houses tend to be small with little extra room. Many of the program directors also believe that San Francisco, as an international city, would not give the students a "true American" living experience. Therefore, most programs place students in the suburban or rural areas.

Understaffing

International Youth Exchange is highly labor intensive. A great deal of time must be spent to recruit and screen applicants, prepare successful participants and their families, and attend to the myriad details involved in actually sending a young person overseas. Just as much time must be spent recruiting and screening host families, introducing their foreign guests, and attending to related administrative details. Funds to hire and keep full-time professional staff are difficult to secure, and volunteerism is being reduced by the rising numbers of working women and by difficult economic conditions generally.

In addition to difficulties in handling their daily workload, it was abundantly clear in our effort to secure participation figures and trends that time is simply not available to many staffs for compiling accurate and consistent data about participation in the programs. For this reason, comparisons of local participation now and 5 or 10 years ago were virtually impossible to obtain even from the best established and best

organized sources. Time for expanded recruitment efforts is equally difficult to secure.

School Conditions

Perhaps the most difficult problem faced by youth exchange organizations is the lack of interest by American high schools. Many high schools no longer emphasize the teaching of foreign languages even to the limited extent they once did, and some do not require any foreign language for graduation. Since the passage of Proposition 13, there has been a shift away from the humanities, social studies and international relations in Bay Area high schools, leading some schools to see exchange students as a problem rather than a positive experience or valuable resource for the school.

V. CONCLUSIONS & OBSERVATIONS: WHAT LIES AHEAD?

Conclusions and observations from this survey can be grouped into the good and the bad, the hopeful and the discouraging.

The good news essentially is that there are many competent, dedicated, and reputable organizations working hard to provide at least a small number of Bay Area students and families with high quality international exchange experiences. Looking at available figures for local participation, the Bay Area does not appear to fare badly relative to national participation, although the absolute numbers of participants are still miniscule for both the Bay Area and the country as a whole.

The bad news is that youth exchange organizations and the Bay Area constituency they serve have a great distance to go before the full potential of the field is realized. Small gains, but hopefully consistent gains over time, are likely to be the best that the field can expect. The President's Youth Exchange Initiative offers the one exceptional hope of a substantial boost in the relatively near term.

What must be done locally and what issues need attention in order to increase the quantity and quality of international youth exchange in the

San Francisco Bay Area? The following suggestions may serve as a beginning answer:

First, the youth exchange field must be better organized locally in order to develop and present a cohesive and consistent message to the public, and to facilitate cooperation wherever possible. Under the auspices of the Northern California Consultative Group on Americans in World Affairs, the beginnings of a better organized local youth exchange field have taken shape. (For further information, contact: Linda Romley, Regional Director, Youth For Understanding, 885 North San Antonio Road, Suite C, Los Altos, California 94022.)

Second, building on better organization, the youth exchange concept and the organizations which represent it need visibility. Visibility is essential in order to generate greater public familiarity with and acceptance of youth exchange, and greater public commitment to participate in exchanges or support them.

Third, youth exchange organizations need host families to receive foreign students coming to the Bay Area. The reciprocal advantages of hosting a foreign youth need to be emphasized and communicated clearly to prospective host families.

Fourth, sponsorship or other financial assistance for local youth exchange participants is needed to expand the numbers of Bay Area youths who participate -- particularly those who cannot otherwise afford to participate. Prospective sponsors or donors must be identified and approached in an organized manner.

Fifth and finally, those who have been involved and who have benefitted personally from international exchange experiences need to become personally involved again on behalf of youths or host families who have not yet had their opportunity. They need to influence a neighbor, friend, employer, congressman, club, or union to make a statement or contribution, give an endorsement, adopt a policy, or otherwise involve themselves. The enthusiastic response of most former exchange participants is infectious, and this enthusiasm needs to be effectively channeled.

In addition to the hard work implied by the preceding suggestions for action, hard thought must be given to the ingredients of a successful youth exchange experience. Some ingredients, particularly those related to personality are elusive to define or control; others are quite clear. They include:

- o understanding the political uses for which governments sometimes use international youth exchanges and transcending them to achieve the close personal experiences that governments cannot provide; and

- o careful participant selection and preparation, including adequate knowledge of one's own country, knowledge of the foreign country and language concerned, and familiarity with current international issues.

Without adequate attention to these and other important factors, exchange experiences can fail utterly to produce anything but further cross cultural or international misunderstanding. International youth exchange is a delicate process that requires care and thought to produce positive results.

What lies ahead for international youth exchange in the San Francisco Bay Area? The basic facts are known, the options are clear, and the choices are ours. There are no crystal balls, only the collective results of individual labors.

VI. DIRECTORY

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American Institute for Foreign Study
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American Intercultural Student Exchange
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Interstudy
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Pacific-American Institute
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People-to-People International
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School Year Abroad
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Tent N' Trek
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Youth for Understanding
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Educational Foundation for Foreign Study
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(415) 543-0547

ADDITIONS

Contacts is a non-profit exchange program with headquarters in France which was started by teachers in France. In this program students from France spend one month in the United States in a homestay. In the summer of 1982, 35 French young people were placed with families in the Bay Area. Contacts has a stipend of $75 for the host family to help pay for board. Contacts has been in existence for more than 10 years.

Contacts
Kathy Collins
165 Kenwood Way
San Francisco, CA 94127
(415) 334-8947

American Foreign Study Programs is a two year old non-profit program which places European students in the U.S. for homestay, scholastic and campus programs. In the Bay Area AFSP provides for a one-month homestay program. In 1983 AFSP placed 44 students in San Francisco and 41 in the Fremont area.

AFSP
Pat Christensen
1617 - 16th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
(415) 731-2859

AFSP
Mary Chamberlain
Fremont Area
(415) 490-4197

REFERENCE WORKS

A NEW GUIDE TO STUDY ABROAD, 1981-82 Edition,

John Garraty, Lily von Klemperer & Cyril Taylor
Harper & Row, N.Y.

WHOLE WORLD HANDBOOK, A GUIDE TO STUDY, WORK AND TRAVEL ABROAD,

--Council on International Educational Exchange
E.P. Dutton, N.Y.